Docket No.: 60177-221605

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Lucien WENDE et al.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicants request the entry of the following amendment prior to the examination of the above-identified application:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.